

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1.(currently amended): A communication system for performing communication control on information indicating whether or not a third party is present over a network, comprising:

a caller communication terminal equipment having presence inquiring means for making an inquiry about a presence state of a communicating party, presence information receiving means for receiving presence information and presence information display means for displaying said received presence information; and

a receiver communication terminal equipment having presence determining means for determining said presence state of an operator of said receive communication terminal equipment, presence information generating means for generating said presence information and presence information sending means for sending said presence information upon reception of said inquiry.

2.(original): The communication system according to claim 1, wherein with respect to said inquiry, said caller communication terminal equipment acknowledges said communicating party's being present when receiving a response to said inquiry from said receiver communication terminal equipment and acknowledges said communicating party's being not present when receiving no response to said inquiry.

3.(original): The communication system according to claim 1, further comprising message control means for storing messages of plural patterns and selecting a message to be sent

to said communicating party and sending said selected message when said communicating party is not present.

4.(original): The communication system according to claim 1, further comprising a management server including schedule information managing means for managing schedule information and performing transmission and reception of said schedule information.

5.(original): The communication system according to claim 4, wherein said management server regularly inquires about a presence state or a line-busy state of said communicating party, updates management information and sends updated contents to a registered terminal.

6.(original): The communication system according to claim 4, wherein said schedule information managing means sends schedule information of a main receiver to a sub receiver in multiline reception mode.

7.(original): The communication system according to claim 4, wherein said schedule information managing means sends schedule information of a main receiver to a responder sub receiver in pickup response mode.

8.(original): The communication system according to claim 4, wherein said schedule information managing means determines whether or not said communicating party is an outsider and sends schedule information for outsiders when said communicating party is an outsider.

9.(original): The communication system according to claim 1, further comprising automatic presence-notification means for, when an absence state has changed to a presence state, automatically notifying that status change to a caller who has called during said absence state.

10.(original): The communication system according to claim 1, wherein said receiver communication terminal equipment detects a line-busy state of said communicating party.

11.(original): The communication system according to claim 10, wherein said caller communication terminal equipment displays information on said line-busy state of said communicating party.

12.(original): The communication system according to claim 1, further comprising a protocol converting unit for connecting said network to an external network and sending presence information and line-busy information in response to a call made over said external network.

13.(currently amended): A communication terminal equipment for performing communication control on information indicating whether or not any third party is present over a network, comprising:

presence inquiring means for making an inquiry about a presence state of a communicating party;

presence information receiving means for receiving presence information;

presence information display means for displaying said received presence information;

presence determining means for determining said presence state of an operator of said communication terminal equipment;

presence information generating means for generating said presence information;

and

presence information sending means for sending said presence information upon reception of said inquiry.